

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-4 and 8-79 that are pending in the above-identified patent application. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Examiner has allowed claims 27-79. Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, and 8-10, and Applicants have cancelled claims 5-7. No new matter is added by the claim amendments.

The undersigned wishes to thank Examiner Kinhead for the courtesies that he extended during the telephone interview on July 3, 2003.

In numbered paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner takes the position that the phrase "the reactive components" lacks antecedent basis. In response, Applicants have amended claim 4 to recite "the at least one reactive components" of the first and second feedback circuits. Applicants submit that this phrase is clearly introduced and supported by paragraphs 4 and 5 of claim 1 as originally filed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw his § 112, second paragraph, rejection of claim 4.

In numbered parts 1-2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 8, 13, and 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,326,854 ("the *Nicholls* reference"). In view of the amendments hereinabove, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection. Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has deemed claims 7, 9-12, 14, and 21-26 as containing patentable subject matter. In this regard, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the patentable features of claim 7. Accordingly, Applicants submit

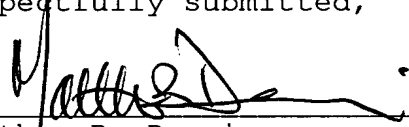
that claim 1 as amended is patentable over the *Nicholls* reference. Further, claims 2-4, 8, 13, and 15-20 depend from independent claim 1 and contain all of the limitations thereof as well as other limitations that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art of record. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the subject dependent claims are likewise patentable.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the instant claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: July 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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